

# Independence

May, 2012

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Independence NHP  
143 S. Third Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106



## Building Hours and Program Times

Independence Visitor Center.....	8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Beginning May 25, 2012.....	8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

### Program:

*"Junior Ranger Induction Ceremony"* weekends at 4:00 p.m.

Liberty Bell Center.....	Monday-Friday.....	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
	Saturday-Sunday.....	9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

*Please note - security screening closes 5 minutes before the Liberty Bell Center closes for the evening*

## Independence Square (Access to the "Square" is through security located at 5th and Chestnut Streets)

*Please note - security screening closes 15 minutes before the buildings on the block close for the evening*

Independence Hall.....	Monday-Friday .....	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
	Saturday-Sunday.....	9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Tours are offered every 15 minutes, tickets are required (no tickets are needed Sat-Sun 5:00-6:00). Free Tickets are available the morning of your visit at the Independence Visitor Center.**

Congress Hall.....	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
The Great Essentials Exhibit in the West Wing of Independence Hall.....	9:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Old City Hall.....	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## Carpenters' Court

America's National Park Museum Shop.....	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Carpenters' Hall.....	open Tuesday-Sunday..... 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
New Hall Military Museum.....	open Saturday & Sunday..... Noon - 4:00 p.m.

### Program:

*"Barnacles and Bullets"* children's program; weekends at 2:30 p.m.

## Franklin Court

B. Free Franklin Post Office.....	open Monday-Saturday.....	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Fragments of Franklin Court.....	open Wednesday-Friday.....	Noon - 4:00 p.m.
Museum Shop.....	open Wednesday-Saturday.....	10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Printing Office.....		9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## Other Park Sites

The City Tavern.....	opens at 11:30 a.m.
Declaration House.....	open Wednesday-Friday..... Noon - 4:00 p.m.
Free Quaker Meeting House.....	open Wednesday-Sunday..... 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
National Constitution Center (fee charged)... open Monday-Friday.....	9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
	open Saturday..... 9:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
	open Sunday..... Noon - 5:00 p.m.
Portrait Gallery in the Second Bank... open Wednesday-Sunday.....	11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### Programs:

*"Bank Orientation Tour"* Wed-Sun at Noon (20 min)

*"Moses Williams: Cutter of Profiles"* weekends at 2:00 p.m. (20 min)

*"Stories of Struggle"* slide show; weekends at 4:00 p.m. (30 min)

The President's House Site Memorial.....	9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Todd and Bishop White Houses.....	ask at the IVC for tickets

## Other NPS Sites

Deshler-Morris House.....	open Friday-Sunday..... 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Edgar Allan Poe NHS.....	open Wednesday-Sunday..... 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Thaddeus Kosciuszko NM.....	open Saturday & Sunday..... Noon - 4:00 p.m.

## *Special Events and Program Descriptions*

**May 5 & 6- Independence Hall and the Civil War** - 3:00-4:00 - Portrait Gallery in the Second Bank of the U.S. Between May 3 and 6, 1862 Major General Charles F. Smith lay in state inside Independence Hall. A native of Philadelphia, Smith was the highest ranking officer to lie in state in the building during the Civil War. To commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this event, join a park ranger for a slide program highlighting the role of Independence Hall during the Civil War.

**May 12 & 13 - Happy Mother's Day** - 3:00-4:00 - Portrait Gallery in the Second Bank of the U.S. Did you know that Mother's Day was founded by Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia? Join a park ranger for a tour of the Portrait Gallery and hear the stories about the "Founding Mothers" who inspire us with their courage and determination.

**May 26-27- George Washington's Band of Brothers** - 3:00-3:30 - Portrait Gallery in the Second Bank of the U.S. In commemoration of Memorial Day, join a park ranger for a tour of the portrait gallery that will introduce George Washington and his Generals; who, against all odds, led the soldiers of the Continental Army to victory over the armies of Great Britain and won American Independence.

**May 28 - Heroism and Sacrifice During the American Revolution** - 3:00-4:30 - Meet across Chestnut Street from Independence Hall. Join a park ranger and a revolutionary war soldier to learn more about the struggles and sacrifices made by members of the military during the American Revolution. The program will begin promptly at 3:00 by observing the national moment of silence and conclude at 4:30 after participating in the wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the American Revolution in Washington Square.

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**Bank Orientation Tour** - Wednesday-Sunday at Noon; Portrait Gallery in the Second Bank of the U.S. - Meet at the Washington Statue for a tour of some of the notable people in the gallery. (15 minutes)

**Moses Williams: Cutter of Profiles** - Saturdays and Sundays at 2:00; The Portrait Gallery in the Second Bank of the U.S. - Hear the amazing story of Moses Williams, who learned to operate the Physiognotrace to earn his freedom and a good living making silhouettes in Peale's Museum. (15 minutes)

**Barnacles & Bullets** - Saturdays and Sundays at 2:30; New Hall Military Museum - Join a park ranger for a family friendly program about the life of an average soldier or sailor during the American revolution. (15 minutes)

**Junior Ranger Induction Ceremony** - Saturdays and Sundays at 4:00; Independence Visitor Center – A park ranger conducts a special ceremony for all the children who have completed our Junior Ranger booklet. (10 minutes)

**Stories of Struggle** - Saturdays and Sundays at 4:00; Portrait Gallery in the Second Bank of the U.S. - Join a park ranger for a slide program highlighting the stories of the people, places and events surrounding the founding and early years of the United States of America. (30 minutes)

## ..... *Become a Junior Ranger*

Did you know that Independence National Historical Park, the Edgar Allan Poe National Historic Site, the Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial and the Deshler-Morris House (also known as the Germantown White House) all have Junior Ranger programs? Stop by the sites and pick up a free junior ranger publication (at Independence NHP, booklets can be obtained from a park ranger at the information desk at the Independence Visitor Center), complete the publications to earn your free junior ranger badge.



## ..... *Accessibility*

There are curb cuts at all street corners, and all major buildings have ramps. Photo albums at the Independence Visitor Center show upper floor views. All films are captioned; many have assisted listening and audio description. To arrange for an ASL interpreter, call (14 days in advance) (215) 597-7130.